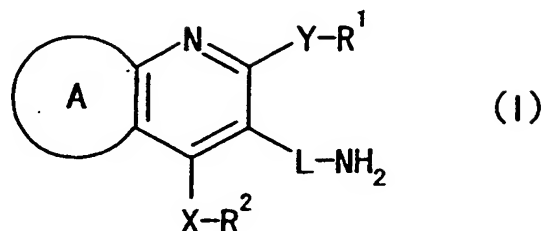


## Claims

1. A compound represented by the formula



wherein

- 5 ring A is an optionally substituted 5- to 10-membered aromatic ring;
- $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are the same or different and each is an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group or an optionally substituted heterocyclic group;
- 10 X and Y are the same or different and each is a bond, -O-, -S-, -SO-, -SO<sub>2</sub>- or -NR<sup>3</sup>- ( $R^3$  is a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group); and
- L is a divalent hydrocarbon group,
- 15 or a salt thereof.

2. The compound of claim 1, wherein the 5- to 10-membered aromatic ring for ring A is a benzene ring.

- 20 3. The compound of claim 1, wherein the ring A is a 5- to 10-membered aromatic ring optionally having 1 to 3 substituents selected from
- (1) a halogen atom;
  - (2) a nitro group;
  - 25 (3) a cyano group;
  - (4) an alkylenedioxy group having 1 to 3 carbon atoms;
  - (5) an alkyl group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms or an alkenyl group having 2 to 10 carbon atoms, each optionally having 1 to 3 substituents selected from a halogen atom, a hydroxy group,

- a carboxyl group, an alkoxycarbonyl group having 2 to 8 carbon atoms, a carbamoyl group, a cyano group, an amino group, an alkylcarbonylamino group having 2 to 8 carbon atoms, an alkoxycarbonylamino group having 2 to 8 carbon atoms and an
- 5 alkylsulfonylamino group having 1 to 8 carbon atoms;
- (6) an optionally substituted hydroxy group;
- (7) an acyl group;
- (8) an optionally substituted amino group;
- (9) an optionally substituted cycloalkyl group having 3 to 10
- 10 carbon atoms;
- (10) an aryl group having 6 to 14 carbon atoms;
- (11) an optionally substituted thiol group;
- (12) an optionally substituted heterocyclic group; and
- (13) an amidino group.
- 15
4. The compound of claim 1, wherein  $R^1$  is an alkyl group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms which is optionally substituted by a cycloalkyl group having 3 to 10 carbon atoms.
- 20 5. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is a bond.
6. The compound of claim 1, wherein Y is a bond.
7. The compound of claim 1, wherein the divalent hydrocarbon
- 25 group denoted by L is an alkylene group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms.
8. The compound of claim 1, wherein  $R^2$  is an alkyl group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms, an aryl group having 6 to 14 carbon
- 30 atoms or an aralkyl group having 7 to 13 carbon atoms, each optionally having 1 to 3 substituents selected from halogen atom, hydroxy group, nitro group, amino group, optionally halogenated alkyl group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms, alkoxy

group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms, aromatic heterocyclic group and cycloalkyl group having 3 to 10 carbon atoms.

9. The compound of claim 1, which is (2E)-3-[3-(aminomethyl)-  
5 2-isobutyl-4-(4-methylphenyl)quinolin-6-yl]acrylamide;  
5-([3-(aminomethyl)-2-isobutyl-4-(4-methylphenyl)quinolin-6-  
yl]oxy)pentanoic acid;  
4-[3-(aminomethyl)-2-isobutyl-4-(4-methylphenyl)quinolin-6-  
yl]piperazin-2-one;  
10 1-[3-(aminomethyl)-2-isobutyl-4-(4-methylphenyl)quinolin-6-  
yl]piperazine-2,5-dione;  
or a salt thereof.
10. A pharmaceutical agent comprising a compound of claim 1 or  
15 a prodrug thereof.
11. The pharmaceutical agent of claim 10, which is a  
prophylactic or therapeutic agent of diabetes.
- 20 12. The pharmaceutical agent of claim 10, which is a  
prophylactic or therapeutic agent of diabetic complications.
13. The pharmaceutical agent of claim 10, which is a  
prophylactic or therapeutic agent of impaired glucose  
25 tolerance.
14. The pharmaceutical agent of claim 10, which is a  
prophylactic or therapeutic agent of obesity..
- 30 15. A peptidase inhibitor comprising a compound of claim 1 or  
a prodrug thereof.
16. The inhibitor of claim 15, wherein the peptidase is

dipeptidyl dipeptidase IV.

17: A method for the prophylaxis or treatment of diabetes in a mammal, which comprises administering a compound of claim 1 or  
5 a prodrug thereof to the mammal.

18. A method for the prophylaxis or treatment of diabetic complications in a mammal, which comprises administering a compound of claim 1 or a prodrug thereof to the mammal.

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19. A method for the prophylaxis or treatment of impaired glucose tolerance in a mammal, which comprises administering a compound of claim 1 or a prodrug thereof to the mammal.

15 20. A method for the prophylaxis or treatment of obesity in a mammal, which comprises administering a compound of claim 1 or a prodrug thereof to the mammal.

21. A method for inhibiting peptidase in a mammal, which  
20 comprises administering a compound of claim 1 or a prodrug thereof to the mammal.

22. Use of a compound of claim 1 or a prodrug thereof for the production of a prophylactic or therapeutic agent of diabetes.

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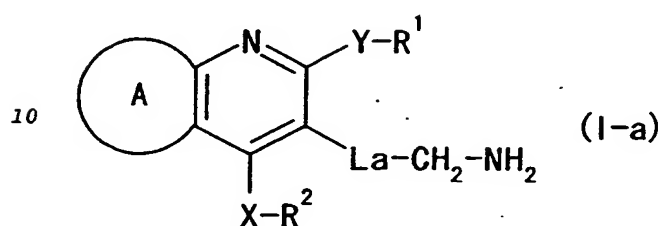
23. Use of a compound of claim 1 or a prodrug thereof for the production of a prophylactic or therapeutic agent of diabetic complications.

30 24. Use of a compound of claim 1 or a prodrug thereof for the production of a prophylactic or therapeutic agent of impaired glucose tolerance.

25. Use of a compound of claim 1 or a prodrug thereof for the production of a prophylactic or therapeutic agent of obesity.

26. Use of a compound of claim 1 or a prodrug thereof for the  
5 production of a peptidase inhibitor.

27. A method of producing a compound represented by the formula



wherein

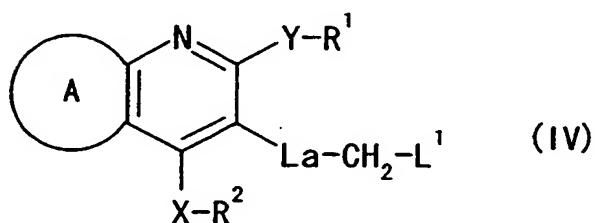
ring A is an optionally substituted 5- to 10-membered aromatic ring;

15  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are the same or different and each is an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group or an optionally substituted heterocyclic group;

X and Y are the same or different and each is a bond, -O-, -S-, -SO-, -SO₂- or -NR³- ( $R^3$  is a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group);

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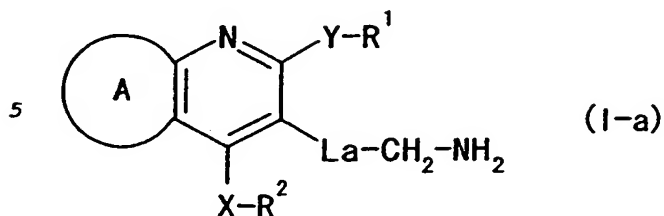
La is a bond or a divalent hydrocarbon group, or a salt thereof, which comprises reacting a compound represented by the formula



25 wherein  $L^1$  is a leaving group, and other symbols are as defined

above, or a salt thereof with an aminating agent.

28. A method of producing a compound represented by the formula



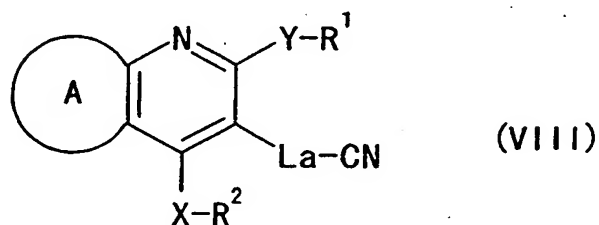
wherein

ring A is an optionally substituted 5- to 10-membered aromatic ring;

10  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are the same or different and each is an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group or an optionally substituted heterocyclic group;

15 X and Y are the same or different and each is a bond, -O-, -S-, -SO-, -SO₂- or -NR³- ( $R^3$  is a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group);

La is a bond or a divalent hydrocarbon group, or a salt thereof, which comprises subjecting a compound represented by the formula



20 wherein the symbols in the formula are as defined above, or a salt thereof to reduction reaction.